AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A printer monitoring system, comprising:

a first network;

a first computer connected to said first network;

a first non-networked printer in communication with said first computer via a first peripheral connection, said first non-networked printer having associated therewith first printer status information;

first agent software installed on said first computer, said first agent software configured to obtain said first printer status information from said first non-networked printer;

a monitor computer in communication with said first computer via said first network;

manager software installed on said monitor computer, said manager software configured to obtain said first printer status information from said first agent software; and

a database configured to store said first printer status information,

said first computer executing said first agent software to obtain said first printer status information from said first non-networked printer via said first peripheral connection, said first agent software forwarding via said first network said first printer status information to said manager software executing on said monitor computer for storage in said database.

2. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 1, wherein said first agent software is in bi-directional communication with said first non-networked printer.

3. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 2, wherein said first agent software is configured to obtain said printer status information from said first non-networked printer on demand.

4. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 2, wherein said first agent software is configured to poll said first non-networked printer in order to obtain said first printer status information.

5. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said first agent software is configured to poll said first non-networked printer on a periodic basis.

6. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 1, wherein said first agent software is configured to receive corresponding printer status information from more than one non-networked printer directly connected to said first computer.

7. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 1, further comprising at least one additional non-networked printer, each said at least one non-networked printer being in communication with said first computer via a corresponding peripheral connection, each said at least one additional non-networked printer having associated therewith a corresponding printer status information, wherein said first agent software is configured to obtain said corresponding printer status information from said at least one additional non-networked printer via said corresponding peripheral connection, said first agent software forwarding via said first network said corresponding printer status information to said manager software executing on said monitor computer, and said manager software configured to receive said corresponding printer status information from said first agent software and store said corresponding printer status information in said database.

8. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 1, further comprising:

a second computer connected to said first network;

a second non-networked printer in communication with said second computer via a second peripheral connection, said second non-networked printer having associated therewith second printer status information;

second agent software installed on said second computer, said second agent software configured to obtain said second printer status information from said second non-networked printer,

said database configured to store said second printer status information, and

said second computer executing said second agent software to obtain said second printer status information from said second non-networked printer via said second peripheral connection, said second agent software forwarding via said first network said second printer status information to said manager software executing on said monitor computer for storage in said database.

9. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 1, wherein said first network is one of a local area network and the Internet.

10. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 1, further comprising:

a second network, said monitor computer connected to said second network;

transmission software installed on said monitor computer, said transmission software configured to extract said first printer status information from said database and transmit said first printer status information across said second network;

a data collection computer connected to said second network; and

data reception software installed on said data collection computer, said data reception software configured to receive said first printer status information,

said monitor computer executing said transmission software to extract said first printer status information from said database and transmit said first printer status information across said second network,

said data collection computer executing said data reception software to receive said first printer status information via said second network.

11. (Original) The printer monitoring system of claim 10, wherein said second network is one of a local area network and the Internet.

12. (Previously Presented) The printer monitoring system of claim 10, further comprising:

at least one networked printer connected to said first network, said at least one networked printer having at least one networked printer status information associated therewith and configured to forward said at least one networked printer status information across said first network;

tracking software installed on said monitor computer, said tracking software configured to obtain said at least one networked printer status information from said at least one networked printer via said first network and store said at least one networked printer status information on said database,

said monitor computer executing said transmission software to extract said at least one networked printer status information from said database and to transmit said at least one network printer status information across said second network, and

said data collection computer executing said data reception software to receive said at least one networked printer status information via said second network.

13. (Original) A method for monitoring a printer, comprising the steps of:

installing first agent software on a first computer, said first agent software configured to obtain said first printer status information from a first non-networked printer in communication with said first computer via a first peripheral connection, said first non-networked printer having associated therewith first printer status information;

installing manager software on a monitor computer in communication with said first computer via a first network, said manager software configured to obtain said first printer status information from said first agent software;

executing on said first computer said first agent software to obtain said first printer status information from said first non-networked printer via said first peripheral connection, said first agent software forwarding via said first network said first printer status information to said manager software executing on said monitor computer; and

executing on said monitor computer said manager software to receive said first printer status information and store said first printer status information in a database configured to store said first printer status information.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said first agent software is in bi-directional communication with said first non-networked printer.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, said first agent software obtaining said first printer status information from said first non-networked printer on demand.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, said first agent software polling said first non-networked printer in order to obtain said first printer status information.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, said first agent software polling said first non-networked printer on a periodic basis.

18. (Original) The method of claim 13, said first agent software receiving corresponding printer status information from more than one non-networked printer directly connected to said first computer.

19. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of:

executing on said first computer said first agent software to obtain corresponding printer status information from at least one additional non-networked printer via a corresponding peripheral connection, said first agent software forwarding via said first network said corresponding printer status information to said manager software executing on said monitor computer, and said manager software receiving said corresponding printer status information and storing said corresponding printer status information in said database.

20. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

installing second agent software on a second computer connected to said first network, said second agent software configured to obtain second printer status information from said second non-networked printer;

executing on said second computer said second agent software to obtain said second printer status information from said second non-networked printer via said second peripheral connection;

said second agent software forwarding via said first network said second printer status information to said manager software executing on said monitor computer; and

said manager software receiving said second printer status information and storing said second printer status information in said database.

21. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said first network is one of a local area network and the Internet.

22. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

installing transmission software on said monitor computer connected to a second network, said transmission software configured to extract said first printer status information from said database and transmit said first printer status information across said second network;

installing data reception software on a data collection computer connected to said second network, said data reception software configured to receive said first printer status information;

executing on said monitor computer said transmission software to extract said first printer status information from said database and transmit said first printer status information across said second network; and

executing on said data collection computer said data reception software to receive said first printer status information via said second network.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said second network is one of a local area network and the Internet.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

providing at least one networked printer, said at least one networked printer having at least one networked printer status information associated therewith and configured to forward said at least one networked printer status information across said first network;

installing tracking software on said monitor computer, said tracking software configured to obtain said at least one networked printer status information from said at least one networked printer connected to said first network and configured to forward said at least one networked printer status information across said first network and store said at least one networked printer status information associated with said at least one networked printer on said database,

executing on said monitor computer said transmission software to extract said at least one networked printer status information from said database and to transmit said at least one network printer status information across said second network, and

executing on said data collection computer said data reception software to receive said at least one networked printer status information via said second network.

25. (Original) A method for monitoring a printer, comprising the steps of:

requesting via a first peripheral connection first printer status information associated with a first non-networked printer;

receiving via said first peripheral connection said first printer status information; and

transmitting via a first network said first printer status information to a monitor computer for storing in a database.

26. (Original) A method for monitoring a printer, comprising the steps of:

receiving at a first non-networked printer a request from a first computer for associated first printer status information via a first peripheral connection;

transmitting via said first peripheral connection said first printer status information to said first computer for transmission to a monitor computer via a first network for storage in a database configured to store said first printer status information.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring a printer, comprising the steps of:

receiving first printer status information associated with a first non-networked printer from a first computer via a first network, said first non-networked printer in communication with said first computer via a first peripheral connection; and

storing the received said first printer status information in a database configured to store said first printer status information.